

November 7, 2003

TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH OF:

O F F I C E A C T I O N

Of : September 9, 2003

Applicant : Hewlett-Packard Co.

Application No.: 102 18 537.9-53

The number of the following reference is cited in this Office Action for the first time and will be used throughout the examination proceedings:

1) JP 2000 216 822 A

1.)

The applicant submitted a request for examination, effective in the present application, on April 25, 2002. This request is based on the original documents submitted on April 25, 2002, and received on April 25, 2002, as the documents on file.

2.)

2.1.) The application describes a prior art of the type which is already known from reference 1). Also this reference discloses a subject matter according to claim 1, i.e. a:

"device comprising:

a connection to a network; and

a network address derived from a fingerprint."

(cf. reference 1, sections "Abstract", "Detailed Description", "Claims"; Fig. 1-4, in particular the table in Fig. 3 [a machine translation of the Japanese original into Eng-

lish has been added so as to make said reference 1 more easily readable])).

It follows that the pending claim 1 fails to disclose any features that constitute a difference between the claimed version and the prior art according to reference 1).

2.2.) Claim 1 is therefore not allowable because of lack of novelty of its subject matter.

2.3.) The application describes a prior art of the type which is already known from reference 1). Also this reference discloses a subject matter according to claim 6, i.e. a:

"system comprising:
a connection to a network; and
a network address derived from a fingerprint of a dependent user." (cf. reference 1, sections "Abstract", "Detailed Description", "Claims"; Fig. 1-4, in particular the table in Fig. 3 [a machine translation of the Japanese original into English has been added so as to make said reference 1 more easily readable])).

It follows that the pending claim 6 fails to disclose any features that constitute a difference between the claimed version and the prior art according to reference 1).

2.4.) Claim 6 is therefore not allowable because of lack of novelty of its subject matter.

2.5.) The application describes a prior art of the type which is already known from reference 1). Also this reference discloses a subject matter according to claim 14, i.e. a:

"method comprising:

generating a network address derived from a fingerprint; and accessing a system over a network using the derived network address."(cf. reference 1, sections "Abstract", "Detailed Description", "Claims"; Fig. 1-4, in particular the table in Fig. 3 [a machine translation of the Japanese original into English has been added so as to make said reference 1 more easily readable])).

It follows that the pending claim 14 fails to disclose any features that constitute a difference between the claimed version and the prior art according to reference 1).

2.6.) Claim 14 is therefore not allowable because of lack of novelty of its subject matter.

3.)

For the time being, it is also impossible to see in the remaining subclaims a patentable particularity which would exceed the design ability of a person having ordinary skill in the art and working in the field of information technology.

4.)

If the applicant should still see patentable features in some other technical particularity, he is herewith requested:

- to submit a clarified, positively formulated task,
- to submit a new set of claims, which is limited with regard to the prior art (reference 1) and the main claim of which contains a clear and complete solution making use of technical means and measures;
- to prove that new features which may have been incorporated in the claims are disclosed in the original documents as features which are essential to the present in-

vention,

- to explain the inventive step in comparison with the proved prior art on the basis of the technical solution features,
- and to assess the prior art (references ascertained) in the description.

If the application is, however, maintained on the basis of the same or on the basis of factually identical claims, or if it is maintained without eliminating the deficiencies objected to, rejection of the application will have to be reckoned with.

Patent Examiner for class G 06 F

Dipl.-Phys. Meierhuber

Encl.

copy of 1 reference
(Japanese original and
English translation)

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 2000-216822

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(71)Applicant : HITACHI LTD

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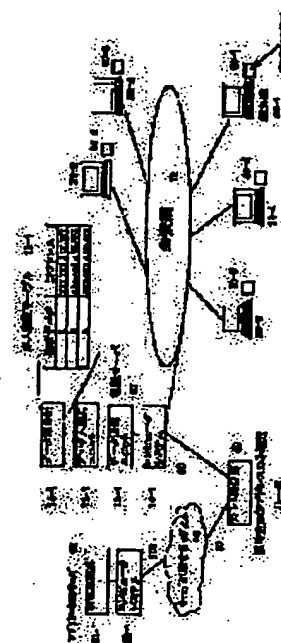
(72)Inventor : ONUMA TETSUYA

(54) METHOD FOR ALLOCATING IP ADDRESS

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a method for allocating an IP address, which can maintain security, by inputting the physical feature of a user and transmitting/receiving inputted certification data as a user identifier through a communication means.

SOLUTION: When the allocation request of an IP address for accessing a specified segment and a server is generated in an arbitrary terminal machine 20-1, the terminal machine 20-1 inputs a physical feature, a fingerprint, for example, by using a fingerprint certification device 30-1. The fingerprint data is transmitted to a certification server 10 through a public network 70. The certification server 10 executes the collation processing of whether registered data stored in the certification server 10 and the user identifier of fingerprint data are the same or not in accordance with the reception of fingerprint data. When the results of the collation processing are matched, the specified IP address is allocated to a user and the collation result is transmitted to the terminal machine 20-1. When the results of the collation processing are not matched, the allocation of the IP address is judged to be impossible and the effect is transmitted.



LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[The technical field to which invention belongs] him according to a stigma especially about the method of assigning a specific IP address, in order that this invention may use the specific server and the specific segment on intranet from the outside -- it is how to assign the IP address for only his making it used by authentication

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] For security, a user is discriminated according to the access demand to a network system, and in order to attain it, it is necessary to perform processing which assigns a specific IP address and accesses a specific segment and a specific server in the computer network system which connected two or more computer systems mutually with the communication network.

[0003] As a method of assigning the present condition and a specific IP address, a specific user can be assigned by the method and password input which are assigned to a specific terminal by the Mac address.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] By the conventional method of accessing a computer system or a network system using authentication by the Mac address or the password input, the trouble that strict security is difficult is in a computer network system which was mentioned above.

[0005] About the security to use of those who know a specific terminal and a specific password by how to assign the conventional specific IP address, it is effective. however, him -- about the security in the case where use is not accepted in except, a password is difficult to check that finish in that only he knows truly or the so-called ", and others do not use unjustly by " etc., for example

[0006] The purpose of an above-mentioned technical problem to this invention is offering how assigning the IP address which can maintain security.

[0007]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In the computer network system concerning this invention, a user identifier is sent out to the allocation demand of an IP address, it connects with means of communications, and two or more data-processing meanses collate the user identifier received through the aforementioned means of communications with the user identifier registered beforehand, and are characterized by providing a collating means to judge the propriety of IP address allocation.

[0008] The IP address allocation method concerning this invention is the IP address allocation method in the network system which has two or more data-processing meanses and the means of communications which interconnects two or more data-processing meanses, and according to an allocation demand, a user's stigma is inputted, it receives through the aforementioned means of communications by making the aforementioned authentication data into a user identifier, and it possesses transmitting a user's specific IP address obtained as a result of collating.

[0009] The aforementioned IP address allocation method collates further the user identifier received through the aforementioned means of communications with the user identifier beforehand registered into the authentication server, and it provides determining allocation of a specific IP address according to a collating result.

[0010] In the above IP address allocation method, it is peculiar to each people in the authentication data and this case which have human being's stigma depending on a fingerprint. Therefore, if the

physical feature is shown is determined.

[0021] Thereby, security more positive than allocation of the Mac address or the specific IP address by the password input is realizable to access by others who are not registered into registration data.

[0022]

[Effect of the Invention] As explained in full detail above, according to this invention, in a computer system, the IP address allocation to the use demand from the external user using intranet becomes possible [maintaining security certainly] by allocation of an IP address using the physical feature data.

[0023] The propriety of the specific IP address allocation to the terminal connected to a network system by carrying out comparison collating with the registration data registered beforehand by making into a user identifier the authentication data which extract the feature which shows human being's stigma especially, and are obtained is determined. Thereby, to access of the intranet by others by whom registration data are not registered, positive security is realizable rather than it accesses using allocation of the Mac address or the IP address by the password input.

[Translation done.]

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] How to assign the IP address characterized by having the computer network system sent and received through means of communications by making into a user identifier the authentication data which inputted and inputted a user's physical feature in the means of communications which interconnects two or more data-processing meanses and two or more data-processing meanses.

[Claim 2] How to assign the IP address characterized by to have the method of collating with the user identifier sent and received through the aforementioned means of communications by making into a user identifier the authentication data which are how to assign the specific IP address in the computer network system which has two or more data-processing meanses and the means of communications which interconnects two or more data-processing meanses, and inputted and inputted a user's stigma, and determining specific IP address allocation according to a collating result.

[Claim 3] The method of determining the aforementioned specific IP address allocation is how to assign the IP address characterized by having the method of collating the authentication data which carried out the re-inquiry of a user's stigma, and reinputted it as a user identifier when a certain fixed time terminal is not used, and determining continuation of specific IP address use according to a collating result.

[Translation done.]

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] The block diagram showing the system configuration in the example of this invention.

[Drawing 2] The flow chart which shows the IP address allocation processing in the example of this invention.

[Drawing 3] him in the example of this invention -- drawing showing an authentication table

[Drawing 4] The flow chart which shows the continuation use processing in the example of this invention.

[Description of Notations]

10 [-- Fingerprint recognition equipment, 40 / -- A router, 50 / -- The segment, 60 to which a server belongs / -- An application server, 70 / -- 80 A public network, 90,100 / -- A communication line, 11-1 / -- He authentication table.] -- An authentication server, 20-1-4 -- A terminal, 30-1-4

[Translation done.]

*** NOTICES ***

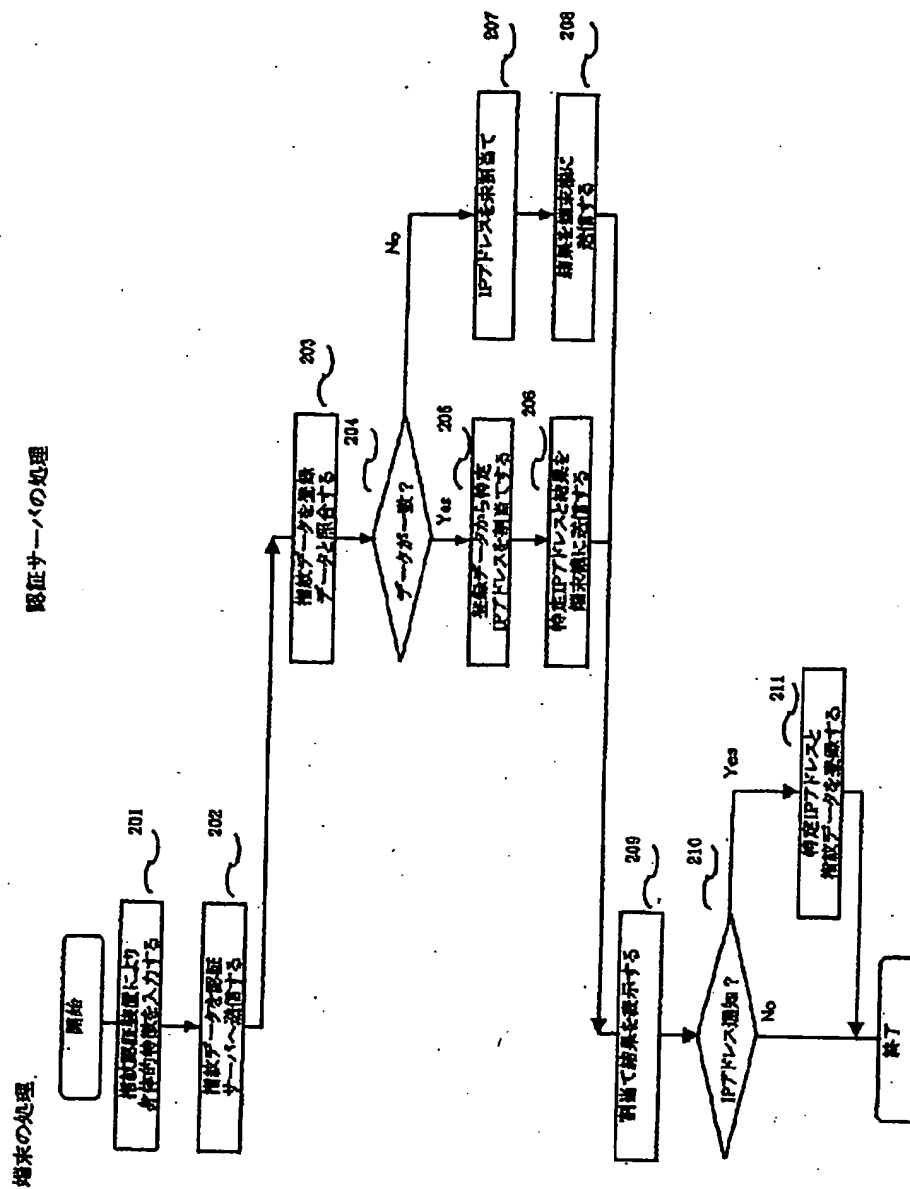
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DRAWINGS

[Drawing 1]

図2



[Drawing 3]
図3

指紋データ	IPアドレス
a	XXX.XXX.XXX.XXX
b	XXX.XXX.XXX.XXX
c	XXX.XXX.XXX.XXX

※テーブル中のIPアドレスは各1で全てユニーク

[Drawing 4]